TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to the Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Va. Subscription rate: $2 a year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c. National advertising representative: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 929 Broadway, New York City. Advertising rates upon request.

EDITORIAL OPINION

CR'SIS IN ASIA

The Americans are a patriotic people and, in times of peril will rally to the flag, right or wrong. It must be that way, and time of crisis is no moment to spread disunity.

But there can be no denying that many of our people are alarmed at the dangers of the sudden emergency involving Formosa and Red China. It seems that we need a few "Fireside Chats" to explain to the people what it is all about. None of the people we know want a war on the mainland of Asia and many of them feel that defending the feeble regime of Chiang Kae-Shek is not worth the risk of such a war. Chiang had his chance in China and could not establish a stable government and surely it is unthinkable that the few troops he has on Formosa could either defend that island, or hope to establish a foothold on the mainland.

Yet, we are opposed to Communism any and everywhere. We do not want to see invincible Communistic powers built up to control all of Asia. It may be that it is awesomely necessary to "draw a line" some place and fight if that "line" Pcrossed. We drew a line in Korea and saved the gallant South Koreans. We tried to get the French to put up a fight to save Indochina.

If we are to fight, or if we are forced to be ready to fight six hundred million people at the drop of a hat, then we should try to round up some allies and take our case to the court of world opinion for a better reception than it has received thus far.

In this trying moment, we pray that a Merciful God will guide our leaders, and the rulers of the world to act with wisdom, and that if it be divine will, the horrors of World War be spared us.

SEED CATALOGUES

(Winchester Star)

Long before peepers and pussy willows, skunk cabbages or the first blue-bird, there comes that earliest whisper of spring—the seed catalogue. It is here now, bringing glimpses of a brave new world that is bright with all-double snapdragons, camellia-flowered begonias super-giant zinnias.

Surely, there is no better antidote to biting zephyrs of winter than these gay offerings of florist nurseryman and planter. They suggest a promised land of flowers and food that is the more actual because the lovely four-color reproductions of petunias and peas are accompanied by order blanks and directions for planting. Here one can select not only seeds whose germination is assured, but also trees and shrubs that bear fruit, vines that produce flowers and berries.

Nor can one overlook that wonderland of gardening aids, the fish oil soap and bean beetle dust, activated DDT powder and aerasoil bombs, legume aid and crow repellent, hole-in-one planters, kits to test soils and guides for wayward vines.

Catalogues this year reflect to some extent the troubled times. Flower gardens are suggested as morale builders. Often there is a philosophical prelude to lists and prices, in which the growers recite their devotion to their tasks or paint in homely terms the joys and benefits that await the faithful gardener.

The versatile Francis Bacon maintained that God planted the first garden, and garden planting, indeed, is the purest of human pleasures. At this season the pleasure although largely prospective, is made more real by the seed catalogues.

THE POLICY IS PEACE

(An Editorial from The New York Times)

Circumstances have compelled the United States and its friends to take a firm stand in various parts of the world. We will not, for example, permit the conquest of Formosa by the Chinese Communists. We will not permit the invasion of Western Europe by Communist forces. We will not tolerate the forcible communization of any territory anywhere whose inhabitants prefer that this should not happen. This includes Latin America.

On the other hand, we know this is not a perfect world and in our time is not going to be. We know there are many millions of people under Communist rule who would rather not be thus situated.

We are fairly certain that there is nothing about North Korea that makes the people in that region prefer communism to civilization and nothing in the character of the people in the northern part of Indochina that makes them inclined toward the so-called "Peoples' Democracies." It may well be that we have many millions of friends in the Soviet Union and on the mainland of China who prefer our way of life to the way to which they have to submit. We must, of course, be realistic as to the reaction against colonialism. Many persons have been deluded into thinking that the colonialism of Russia was somehow different from the outworn and abandoned colonialism of London, Paris and Rome. We don't know all we would like to know. We can't get at the people we would like to talk to. No votes are taken in the democratic sense within those sequestered and authoritarian areas.

But it is not the intention of the United States and its friends to try to change this situation by force. It would not have been our intention to do so even though war had continued to be an afair of the so-alled "conventional" weapons. We could not have moved to set the world right according to our beliefs and inclinations even though the act would have been only a few billions of dollars and a few hundred thousand lives and not the obliteration of cities and perhaps of civilization itself.

But now we stand in a new stage of history. War has changed its nature. It is not merely a costly and foolish way of settling differences of opinion. It is for all those engaged in it, victor and losers alike, a form of suicide. We know this better than most nations because, in spite of treason and the natural spread of knowledge, we probably have more information about the hydrogen bomb than any other people. We know so much about the hydrogen bomb and its possible use in war that war has ceased to be for us an acceptable means of policy. We will not go to war to add to our territories or our wealth or our power or for any reason whatever—except one.

We will undertake war with heavy hearts, and with no expectation of anything but ruin, only if we or our friends are attacked in such a way as to make the survival of freedom uncertain. If we have to choose between an uncertain survival and a certain slavery we will take the uncertain survival. We will not save our cities, our lives and our material civilization at the expense of all that makes life worth living.

This much our possible enemies should know. They should also know that we do not threaten them in any way as long as they do not threaten the liberty of ourselves or any other people now free. We dislike the system of communism, but we will not make war to destroy it in any part of the world where it now exists.

It might be said of Americans in particular that no people in all history ever so wanted to be let alone. If we accept the thought of our fleet going up the Formosa Strait it is because we think this movement, so many thousands of miles away, may make it a little more certain that the farmer in Iowa, the cotton laborer in the South, the clothing worker in New York City, may each go more peaceably about his business. We want peace. We know that mankind cannot survive without peace. Peace and freedom are the two words on which we hope to build a new and better world. We believe the peoples of the Communist countries would understand this principle and meet us half way if only we could speak to them.

FEDERAL AID AND STATE'S RIGHTS

(An Editorial in the Bedford Va., Democrat)

"Our Congressman, Richard Poff in a weekly letter he distributes to newspapers in his district, calls attention to the huge growth in the last 20 years in federal aid programs. In 1934, when the New Deal was just getting up steam, there were 18 programs calling for federal aid to the states totalling 126 million dollars. In 1954 the number of programs had increased nearly threefold, to 50, and the total cost had jumped to more than three billion dollars, 23 times the 1934 figure. Mr. Poff points out, quite correctly, that these sums should not be called "grants" in aid but rather "returns," since the money must be collected from the people of the states to which it eventually is returned, less the cost of the federal handling.

Now to those who fear the growth of Washington's power and encroachments of federal control this is an alarming development. There is much to be said for this view. Our government is the most stable among those of the great powers largely because it is founded on a union of sovereign states, jealous of the central power and frequently applying the brakes when the federal machine threatens to run wild. This division of powers in the main has been a safeguard for the rights of the individual, a powerful bulwark for democracy— although at times it has not worked that way.

But there is another side to the coin. It is forgotten too often that states' rights imply states' responsibilities. Also the mighty growth of this nation has turned up problems too big for the states to handle, even if they were willing. This is emphasized by the fact that the greatest expansion of federal aid occurred while the party which once was the champion of states' rights was in power, during the 20 years of Roosevelt and Truman. And the Republican Administration, pledged to halt the trend toward all-powerful federal government, has found itself compelled by the hard facts of economics to continue most of the New Deal. Before we reject or oppose the federal aid programs proposed by President Eisenhower, for highways, for schools, for public health, we must answer the question whether the states can — or would if they were able — do the jobs that must be done in these fields so vital to the well-being of the American people. In many instances the answer must be no. Those who guard states' rights must be sure that they can guarantee that states' responsibilities—to the national security, national prosperity and the welfare of their own people—can and will be fulfilled.

LEISURE TIME

Winchester Star

A book publisher engaged in some fancy figuring and concluded that every individual has the equivalent of 93 days of leisure time a year. He subtracted from the total number of hours in a year (8,760) time spent at the job (on the basis of a 40-hour week), as well as that consumed daily in commuting, eating, dressing, and various chores. He arbitrarily allotted eight hours a day for sleep.

Ninety-three days a year or one-fourth of an individual's time is not earmarked in advance. In an adult lifetime of 50 years, that adds up to 13 leisure-time years.

This suggests the point that whether this individual has developed good play habits is as important to him as his attitude toward his job. But the manner in which leisure time is utilized by the populace en masse is a vital matter for all society. The cultural and moral tone of civilization depends in large measure on the values a society puts on its own time.

What the individual does with his time that is not earmarked in advance—whether he applies himself constructively to a hobby or other activity, or lets the hours flit aimlessly by—has an important bearing on his ability to get the most out of life.

WE'LL TAKE GIRLS

(Greensboro Daily News)

Having received a beautiful book on the history of the American Tobacco Co., entitled "Sold American—The First Fifty Years," we cannot resist the conclusion that tobacco advertising has declined in that period.

The book starts off with a picture of Chief Powhatan and winds up with one of H. Allen Smith emitting a testimonial. Now Mr. Smith is a favorite humorist of ours, but as a picture he simply cannot compete with Powhatan in full regalia.

Nor is this all. Early advertisements leaned heavily to the esthetic side, with pictures of Indian maidens, nymphs overwhelming a satyr, Anna Held with her hair down and a Turkish houri doing a dance of an indeterminate number of veils before a sultan beneath the bough—all the ladies out-Monroe Marilyn.

It seems to us that this beats all holler modern advertisements featuring strong and honest but not especially beautiful farmers examining tobacco leaves, or scientific exhibitions of filter tips intended to convince the fear-ravaged homo Americanus that one brand of cigarettes is not as noxious as another.

Maytag
THE FINEST YOU CAN BUY!

Value throughout—and easy to own
Liberal trade-ins, easy terms
See it now!
Appomattox Hardware Co.
APPOMATTOX, VA.

Advertisement

From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

A Winner Every Time!

Last Friday at our big basketball game with Centerville I sat next to a fine-looking old man. Centerville had things their way the first half — and he cheered every score they made.

But our boys began to catch up. Then Stretch Brown put us in the lead with a long set shot, —and I noticed that the old fellow was now rooting for *our* side. "What team are you for, anyway?" I demanded.

"Neither," he replied. "I've got my own team. I figure any kid that does a good job out there is on my team. Root for the individual like I do — and you'll always back a winner!"

From where I sit, maybe it is a good idea to keep our eye on the individual, instead of automatically grouping him on teams you're "for" or "against." We're all individuals at heart, with our likes and dislikes — our right to prefer tea to coffee or beer to buttermilk ... our right to "blow the whistle" when anyone tries to regiment us.

Joe Marsh

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Beasley's Cities Service

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Conveniently Located at Intersection of 460 & 131

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- Car Washing
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- Cities Service Accessories
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- Oil Changes

YOU WILL LIKE CITIES SERVICE
AND WE WANT TO SERVE YOU REGULARLY

Dr. Christian Finds Clipping On Origin of State Designation

The origin of the Appelation "Old Dominion"

"There is in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society, a coin of the following description: on one side is a head, and the words 'Georgius III, Rex"; on the other side is a shield, on which are quartered the arms of England Scotland, Ireland, and Virginia. The whole is surmounted by a crown, and encircled with the word, 'Virginia' 1773. A similar coin was dug up a few years later and the following statement was published with the description of it: During the usurpation of Cromwell, the Colony of Virginia refused to acknowledge his authority, and declared itself independent. Shortly after finding that Cromwell threatened to send a fleet and an army to reduce Virginia to subjection fearing the ability of this feeble state to withstand this force, she sent, in a small ship a messenger to Charles II, then an exile in Breseda, Flanders. Charles accepted the invitation to come over, and he king of Virginia; and was on the eve of embarking when he was called back to the throne of England. As soon as he was restored to the crown of England, in gratitude for the loyalty of Virginia, he caused her coat of arms to be quartered with those of England, Scotland and Ireland, as an independent member of the empire."

The information given in this article of writing was copied f an old history that was writte 1840 and was a summary of se pages of its history as given.- P The Savannah Georgian.

I thought this might be inte ing to lovers of history and us to those attending school.

D. A. Christian,

(Editor's note: We are sh delighted to have Dr. Christian us one of his interesting histo articles).

Subscription rate: $2.00 a P payable in advance.

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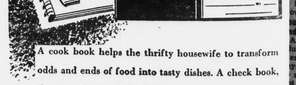

A cook book helps the thrifty housewife to transform odds and ends of food into tasty dishes. A check book, through the record it provides, helps in the financial management of the family's funds.

Yes, in most homes, the check book is just as important as the cook book—or more so. You are invited to carry your Checking Account at this bank.

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Appomattox, Virginia
Member of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Scripture: Luke 12:11-34; Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 2:11-14; I John 4:10.
Devotional Reading: Romans 5:1-8.

The Grace of God

Lesson for February 6, 1955

Dr. Foreman

THE "grace of God," as the New Testament uses the word, means at least two things. The most common meaning is the undeserved favor of God. It is almost the same in meaning as the love of God, except that the word "grace" carries in itself the idea of something not earned, not deserved, but given out of sheer generosity. The other meaning (found for instance in Titus 2:11) includes all the ideas in the earned favor, but it goes beyond this. The grace of God is not only an attitude of God toward men, it is a power bestowed by God on men. One modern writer has truly said that the Grace of God is almost another word for the Holy Spirit, for what the Spirit does in man, that the Grace of God does also.

Saved by Grace

We cannot pretend to understand the grace of God. It is not too high for us to experience, but it is too high for us to understand. How God can never be crammed into any human brain. But it is extremely important to try to understand what the New Testament writers mean when they speak of God's grace, for here we are at the very heart of things. Every religion stops being something we talk about, and becomes something that takes hold of us. And it is true that every man is a sinner, if it is true that we are all headed in the wrong direction and are left to ourselves, if it is true as Paul said that "the good that I would, I do not, and the evil that I would not, that I do," then it is true that only God can help us untangle ourselves, then there are we going to persuade God to do this? How can we get God on our side? What do we do to win him over? Man's desperate answers to this question have given rise to all the religions but

Men have made painful sacrifices, torn themselves with knives, offered innumerable animals on many altars, dedicated their fortunes, devised and obeyed a multitude of difficult laws, all to win or earn God's favor. It cannot be done. The grace of God is given for sale. The one religion in which is an exception to all the others is the religion of the New Testament. Saint Paul puts the whole truth into one single simple sentence: **It is by grace you have been saved.**

God Makes the First Move

God comes down to us; we do not climb to him. God comes to find us; we could never find him otherwise. The "grace of God" means that without our earning or deserving it, without our deserving it, God freely loves us. Any man who thinks he deserves the love of God is a most colossal monument of conceit. Paul, it must be remembered, was not speaking as a professor examining the grace of God from the outside. He was speaking as a man who had experienced that grace and could tell us about it from the inside. So did John in his letter (I John 4:10). It has sometimes been supposed that God had no grace in his heart at all, for this miserable race of stupid and selfish people; but that Jesus somehow made God sorry for mankind and by his sacrifice induced God to change his mind and save us. Nothing could be more opposite to New Testament truth. All that Christ did for us, including his own self-sacrifice on the cross, was not a cause of God's grace but a result. Christ did not come to so cause God to love us; God loved us and so sent his Son "to be the propitiation for our sins." In the war between man and God it is God who makes the first move toward peace.

We Cannot Take God's Grace and Leave It Too

A good TV program may bring education to all men; but not all men will take it. So though Paul says God's grace brings salvation to all men, some men are plainly not saved. Some men learn the humility that it takes to accept God's free gifts. Other men as it were take the free grace of God and promptly leave it again. The grace of God never operates in a vacuum. God never, so to speak, scatters it around not caring what people do with it or about it. The grace of God is not something for a warm emotional moment, something to look back on all one's life. It is not like a ray of sunshine recalled in an arctic winter. The grace of God is not an abstract something, a mere doctrine, in theology.

Lessons based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Heart Fund Drive Underway

With the broad expansion of its research program as its leading objective, the American Heart Association and the Heart Associations in Virginia this week launched the month-long 1955 Heart Fnud campaign under the chairmanship of General Mark W. Clark, former U. S. Commander-in-Chief in the Far East.

In Appomattox County, the Heart Fund is under the sponsorship of the Piedmont Heart Association.

Mr. Ivey Holland will head up the drive here.

The Heart Fund is the annual public appeal through which the Heart program is made possible.

The drive, seventh since the American Heart Association became a national voluntary health organization in 1948, is being conducted in more than 3,000 communities under the guidance of 56 affiliate and 350 chapters. "Help Your Heart Fund, Help Your Heart" is the slogan of the 1955 campaign.

In opening Heart Fund month General Clark pointed out that the heart diseases account for nearly 800,000 deaths in the United States each year—more than other causes combined. Some 10,000,000 Americans, including 500,000 children, suffer from some sort of heart or blood vessel disease, he said.

"To expand our vital research activities in the interests of this great army of people, and in the interests of the millions who may suffer diseases of the heart and the blood vessels in future years, we hope to exceed by far the $11,330,195 contributed to the Heart Fund in 1954," General Clark said.

Seventy-five per cent of all funds raised throughout the February drive will remain in Virginia to carry on the research, educational and community programs of local Heart Associations. Of the amount forwarded to the national headquarters of the American Heart Association, the greater portion is earmarked for the support of the research program, General Clark pointed out.

Arrangements have been made for public contributions to be sent by mail by addressing them to "Heart," care of the local post office.

Constant Care Necessary To Prevent VE Outbreaks

Constant vigilance is necessary to control vesicular exanthema (VE) and 350 chapters. "Help Your Heart Fund, Help Your Heart" is the slogan of the 1955 campaign.

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Spout Spring

Spout Spring, Feb. 1.- Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Thomas visited relatives in Lynchburg Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Moon and children visited his parents Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Scruggs were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Jennings.

Mrs. Harry Reynolds visited friends in Lynchburg Sunday.

Mr. C. W. Adams, who has been sick for several days, is improving.

Carrie Chaulebois spent last week with her grandmother, Mrs. Georgia Schindler.

The Sout Spring Homemaker's Club held its monthly meeting in the home of Mrs. Georgia Schindler. A very interesting demonstration on how to cook vegetables, was given by Mrs. Nancy Jones and Mrs. Wesley Martin.

READING

Children certainly need to be taught how to read, write, listen to, and speak the English language, if not with elegance and charm at least with clarity. Most Americans cannot read anything more difficult than a picture paper or a pulp mag. —Bernard Iddings Bell, Crisis in Education.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year payable in advance.

Appomattox is a growing town.

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Optometrist and Opticians
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Your friend and neighbor in Lynchburg

1865--Our 90th Year--1955

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THE OLD, BIG, STRONG BANK
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Look under the hood!

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Make sure you get Money-Saving short-stroke power. Only FORD has it in every truck!

THIS YEAR, the truck industry is beginning to follow Ford's lead to modern *short-stroke V-8* engines. Shorter stroke prolongs piston ring life *up to 53%*. Engines last longer! You get more *usable* power. You can save up to one gallon of gas in seven!

But here's the big thing to remember: FORD and *only* Ford gives you a short-stroke engine in *every* size truck from Pickups to tandems—*available now!* Ford, most experienced builder of V-8's in the business, has *four* short-stroke V-8's and the industry's most modern short-stroke Six.

So, before you buy any new truck this year—look under the hood! Go modern! Go short-stroke! Go Ford Truck—the Money Maker!

New Ford Trucks for '55 give you modern *short-stroke* power in every one of over 190 models! Shown: new F-600, GVW 16,000 lbs., with choice of *three* short-stroke engines!

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